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PATENT



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of:

Smith et al.

Application No: 09/747,660

Filed: December 22, 2000

For: WAFER BACKSIDE PLATE FOR USE IN
A SPIN, RINSE, AND DRY MODULE AND
METHODS FOR MAKING AND
IMPLEMENTING THE SAME

Group Art Unit: 1746

Examiner: G. Winter

Atty. Docket No: LAM2P216

Date: September 26, 2003

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on September 26, 2003.

Signed:

Courtney F. Yadegar

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop: RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action mailed on June 26, 2003, please enter the following amendments and remarks in the above-identified patent application:

Amendments to the Specification begins on page 2 of the paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 8 of this paper.